

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the careful review of the present case and indication of allowable claims and further allowable subject matter.

Claims 1, 3, 8-11, 14, 18 and 20-25 were pending. Claims 1, 3 and 9-11 were allowed.

Claims 24 and 25 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. To that end, the allowable subject matter of Claims 24 has been incorporated in independent claim 14, thereby rendering claim 14 allowable, the result being that claim 18 now depends on allowable claim 14. Claim 20 has also been amended to depend on allowable claim 14, thereby rendering it and claims 22-23 allowable as dependent on allowable claim 14. Independent claim 14 and its dependent claims 14, 18, 20-23 and 25 are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claim 8, which was found allowable but has been objected to as depending on a cancelled claim, is hereby amended to depend on allowed claim 1, and therefore claim 8 is believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 14, 18 and 14, 20, 21 and 14, 20, 22, 23 were rejected on new 103 grounds, which grounds are believed to be moot in view of the claim amendments herein of incorporating the allowable subject matter of claim 24 in the independent claim 14. In view of this, it is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn and rendered moot.

All pending claims 1, 3, 8-11, 14, 18 and 20-23, 25 are now in condition for allowance and Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, applicants submit that all claims now pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. Allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

If a telephone conversation would be of assistance, Applicant's undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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